of electronic commerce and electronic governance in the country and also for regulating cyber crimes and cyber forensics as well as addresses all aspects of the cyber security etc. in a manner that there is no socpe for different interpretations and follows the international guidelines for uniformity to gain from the process of globalisation.

2. To consider the recommendations made by the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Cyber Law & Cyber Forensics & finalize the amendments to the IT Act, 2000.

3. To consider and recommend suitable legislation for data protection (Privacy) in the IT Act, 2000.

4. To consider the feability of making IT Act, 2000 technology neutral and recommend necessary amendments to the IT Act, 2000.

5. To consider the additional feedback and suggestions received by the government and recommend suitable amendments to the IT Act 2000.

6. To consider the issues of regulation of operations of cyber cafes and blocking of websites within the IT Act.

7. To consider the matter of India signing the European Cyber Crimes Treaty and make suitable recommendations.

Electronic waste

2511. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that within the next few years, electronics waste or e-waste is also going to become a major issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Electronics Industry is the world's largest and fastest growing

manufacturing industry today. As a consequences of this growth combined with rapid product obsolescence, discarded electronic equipment or e-waste is now one of the fastest growing waste streams in the world. This e-waste comprises a broad and growing range of electronic appliances in the consumer electronics, Communication and Information Technology sector (i.e. Cellphones, PCs, TVs, Microwave Ovens etc.). It was estimated that the volume of e-waste is increasing by 3 to 5% per year which is 3 times faster than the rate at which normal municipal waste is growing.

With a view to examine all aspects of e-waste in the Indian context, the Government has constituted **a** Working Group consisting of representatives of Regulatory Agencies, NGOs, Industry assocations and experts in the field.

Cheating with consumers by Reliance India

†2512. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in mobile service of Reliance Company billing starts as soon as number is dialled;

(b) whether consumers have been made aware of this process of Reliance Company;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether this is not a king of cheating with consumers; and

(d) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had received some complaints in this regard and in March 2004, it had asked M/s. IMRB, an independent agency which carry out audit of performance of all service providers on behalf of TRAI, to investigate the complaints. The agency had reported that in the network of Reliance Infocomm Ltd., the billing starts from the time the call is answered and not as soon as the number is dialled. This has also been reconfirmed recently by the Billing Auditing Agency engaged by TRAI.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) to (c) above.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.